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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: Jean-François RANJARD et al.

Serial Number: Not yet assigned

(§371 of international application No. PCT/FR2004/002321)

Filed: December 23, 2005

For: METHOD FOR MAINTAINING AN AQUEOUS SOLUTION OF SODIUM

BORATE IN A LIQUID FORM AT ROOM TEMPERATURE

Attorney Docket Number:

LAV05005

Customer Number:

29980

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 23, 2005

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.